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ROME PASS FODAG
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SUBJECT: PAKISTAN - EARTHQUAKE: USAID/DART SITUATION REPORT
#6

Summary

1. The USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) continues to facilitate the movement of excess U.S. military commodities to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for distribution in affected areas. The USAID/DART observed market activity and the delivery of food stocks to private businesses in Muzaffarabad. The U.N. World Food Program (WFP) is attempting to obtain a needs assessment of the affected areas. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) hospital is receiving patients in Muzaffarabad, and a U.S. mobile army surgical hospital (MASH) is becoming operational. The U.N. and the Pakistani military have developed a long-term six-week transportation plan for relief commodities that will be presented for approval to the Government of Pakistan (GOP) on October 25.

Death Toll

2. As of October 23, the GOP reported that the earthquake killed 51,382 people and injured 74,498 others. According to the U.N., the number of severely affected people is 1.9 million. Severely affected refers to those individuals who have been affected in more than three clusters (clusters include food and nutrition, shelter, health, and water and sanitation).

Water and Sanitation - October 22 meeting in Islamabad

3. On October 22, the USAID/DART Water and Sanitation Officer (WSO) attended the water and sanitation cluster meeting and reported that the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other members of the water sanitation sector are aggressively addressing water and sanitation needs in earthquake affected areas. While water issues are being successfully addressed as relief organizations gain access to affected populations, sanitation related interventions are not as aggressively implemented. Therefore, the water and sanitation cluster group is promoting sanitation interventions in affected areas and making sanitation the primary focus of the water and sanitation sector. The cluster group believes the focus by relief organizations on safe water interventions without a corresponding aggressive sanitation intervention campaign will place the affected populations at risk of gastro-intestinal diseases. The cluster group is actively promoting sanitation and has stated that future meetings shall be devoted to strategizing and identifying solutions to sanitation related issues.

4. The water and sanitation cluster group's plan to address needs in rural areas is to establish supply centers in valleys where water treatment tablets, soap, and water containers will be distributed and hygiene education will occur. These activities are a priority due to the possibility that rural residents may soon be isolated due to winter weather. The plan for urban areas is to meet SPHERE standards in urban camp settings, focusing on sanitation interventions such as latrine construction, soap distribution, and hygiene promotion.

5. UNICEF stated there is a shortage of pre-fabricated

latrine slabs. Oxfam is supplying 1,000 plastic slabs, and UNICEF has contracted with a metal shop in Islamabad for the construction of 1,000 metal latrine slabs. The metal shop reported to UNICEF that they could construct 100 slabs per day. If the metal slabs prove acceptable, UNICEF hopes to contract with other metal shops to increase production.

16. UNICEF is facilitating water and sanitation cluster meetings three times weekly in the humanitarian relief hubs of Muzaffarabad and Mansehra. Cluster meetings have unofficially started in the hubs of Batagram, Bagh, and Balakot. Water sanitation meetings in these areas are facilitated by NGO entities designated by UNICEF with the approval of the sector cluster. Leads in the three hubs are as follows: Batagram-Life for Relief and Development; Bagh-Islamic Relief; Balakot- Oxfam. UNICEF stated that water sanitation interventions will be directed at the district level.

17. UNICEF stated that the greatest immediate need is human resources. UNICEF is expanding its water and sanitation staff to nine employees and hopes to increase the number of national water and sanitation specialists on their staff. UNICEF stated that the present numbers of relief workers addressing water sanitation issues in country is inadequate for the huge area affected by the earthquake. The cluster group hopes to see an increase in NGO presence in-country over the next several weeks.

----- Water and Sanitation - Meetings in Muzaffarabad -----

18. On October 24, the USAID/DART conducted a survey of the water and sanitation situation in Muzaffarabad and observed that the streets were relatively free of large piles of solid waste. Residents were observed obtaining water from public water taps. The USAID/DART tested water from the piped water system, and the test indicated the water was treated with chlorine. There was no evidence of open defecation in public areas visited by team members.

19. A U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) medical officer in Muzaffarabad told the USAID/DART WSO that the infectious disease surveillance system revealed no unusual increases in communicable diseases in the areas reporting data. The WHO medical officer stated that sanitation in rural areas is a concern, and WHO is adding a water and sanitation specialist to the WHO team to improve its technical capacity in sanitation intervention activities.

110. The Oxfam Public Health Coordinator stated that Oxfam and the local government have initiated a solid waste clean-up program which had been very effective. Oxfam supported the local government in re-establishing solid waste collection and is having community clean-up campaigns. The Public Health Coordinator stated that Oxfam is heavily involved in providing water and building latrines. Oxfam has built 89 community latrines at camps in Muzaffarabad. Oxfam reported that there were not many people in the camps, and most people are staying near their homes or have left to go to Islamabad.

111. The CRS Water Sanitation Specialist stated that CRS is no longer providing water sanitation services in Muzaffarabad. CRS is focusing water sanitation interventions on rural and semi-urban areas.

----- Food and Nutrition -----

112. On October 21, a U.S. Embassy/Pakistan representative attended the food and nutrition cluster group meeting and reported that cluster group participants are still uncertain as to how food will actually get to people in affected areas. The group reported that the U.N. Joint Logistics Center (UNJLC) and the U.N. Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) needs to double and triple some of their services, especially air capacity within Pakistan. As the weather starts to change, ration requirements will change. WFP will try to incorporate this information into its plans. WFP hopes that its aerial assessments will be able to produce a need assessment of what food is needed, what bridges and roads are accessible, etc. by October 26. WFP is putting together a strategy for rubhall (tent warehouse) storage capacity at the three hubs in Mansehra, Muzaffarabad, and Bagh. WFP plans to have a 45-day supply of food at each rubhall hub.

----- Health -----

113. The USAID/DART Health Officer (HO) reported that a 100-bed ICRC hospital in Muzaffarabad opened on October 21. ICRC is tracking the names of family members and villages, and if a child is under the age of 15, an adult may remain with the child in the hospital. The ICRC hospital started receiving patients on October 21.

114. The Abbas hospital in Muzaffarabad received 787 patients on October 20. The hospital was damaged, but

reopened a few days after the earthquake and has received a total of 10,549 patients since then. Abbas hospital currently has zero bed capacity and is two to three days from stopping intake of new patients.

15. Many are encouraging the medical quote tent village end quote idea due to the lack of capacity at the Abbas hospital. The GOP is starting a basic health unit. The establishment of a U.S. MASH started on October 21. The hospital will be located at the Prime Minister's Secretariat. The U.S. MASH will be able to start surgeries

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by the evening of October 25.

16. The Ministry of Health (MOH) plans to immunize 120,000 people against measles, tuberculosis (TB), diphtheria-pertussis-tetanus (DPT), and polio. Vitamin A distributions are also occurring. The MOH mobilized four mobile health teams on October 21, and started a health unit in Bagh and Relakot on the same day.

Logistics and Coordination

17. The USAID/DART U.N. Liaison officer (UNLO) reported that the U.N. and the Pakistani military have developed a long-term six-week transportation plan. The plan will be presented to the GOP for approval on October 25. Under this plan, all critical items such as shelter materials, emergency relief supplies, and food would be transported from Islamabad to Abbottabad primarily by truck. At Abbottabad, the Pakistani military and U.N. would establish a heavy lift capacity helicopter base. From Abbottabad, heavy helicopters would be used to move goods to four locations: Batagram, Naran, Muzaffarabad, and Chakothi. From these four locations, smaller helicopters would be used to transport items to villages at higher elevations and valleys.

18. The USAID/DART reports that as of October 24, the U.N. currently has 5 MI-8 helicopters in country, and they are expecting 3 additional Chinook CH-47s in the next 24 hours. These Chinooks were provided by the U.K. Royal Air Force and donated by the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID)

19. On October 24, the USAID/DART team facilitated the movement of excess U.S. military commodities to include 15,000 blankets to GOAL for distribution in Bagh, 43 tents to UNICEF, 1,536 sleeping bags and 840 cases of rations to Mercy Corps, and 107 cartons of medical supplies to WHO. Of the 43 tents, 22 will be transported to Muzaffarabad and 21 to Mansehra. These medium-sized tents will be used for schools.

20. The USAID/DART UNLO reported that UNHAS plans to schedule a meeting with militaries who have flight capacity in Pakistan. This includes the Pakistani, Japanese, German, American, and British militaries. The meeting will also include the U.N. and international organizations. The UNLO spoke to the Joint Task Force (JTF) Liaison Officer (LNO) at the Civil Military Coordination cell to request that the U.S. military possibly play a role in the planning of this meeting.

21. The U.N. has three hubs in Mansehra, Muzaffarabad, and Bagh. One-thousand NATO troops will be arriving on October

24. This mixed battalion will include engineering and medical specialists, and they will be focusing on road infrastructure, latrines, and clearing land for temporary shelters and structures.

Tent Cities

22. According to local media reports, the Cabinet Committee on Earthquake Relief, Reconstruction, and Rehabilitation has decided to set up two quote tent cities end quote for earthquake victims. The committee has decided that these tent cities will be in Fateh Jang and Chakal. The tent cities will have electricity, water, and health, and education services.

USAID/DART Assessments

23. On October 23 and 24, the USAID/DART in Muzaffarabad examined damage in Muzaffarabad. While the team observed many destroyed buildings, streets were clear of debris and a large number of businesses were open. The team observed many customers visiting shops. Goods being sold included large amounts of fresh fruits and vegetables and freshly butchered meat. Streets were clogged with traffic including large commercial trucks transporting food, dry goods, and

animal fodder. The team saw residents rehabilitating buildings and clearing debris and rubble. The team's interpreter reported that food is being sold on the market in Muzaffarabad at 10 percent above the pre-earthquake price.

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